



St. Johns Riverkeepers Litter Capture

Watergoat



St. Johns River Keeper: Rising Tides

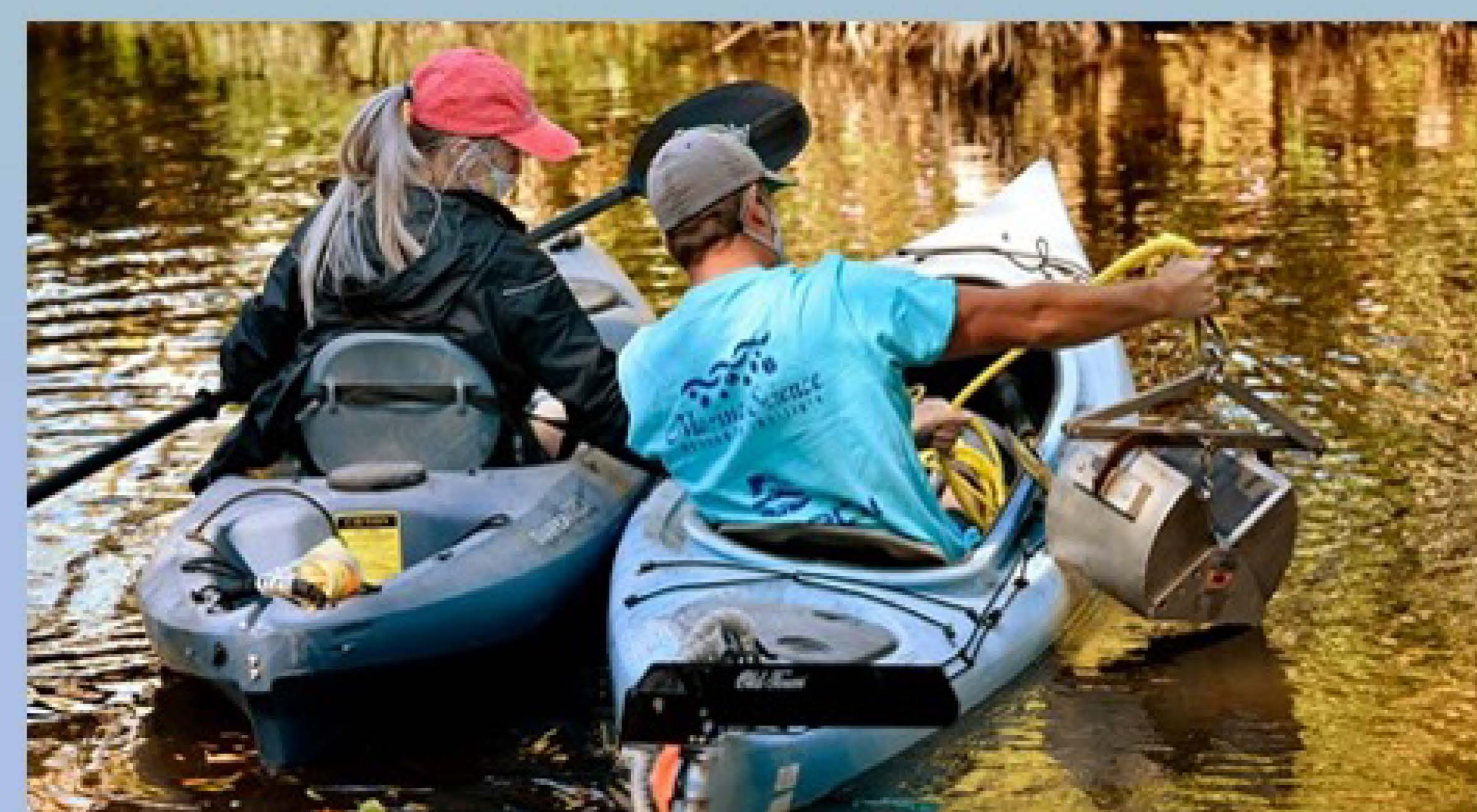
- Rising Tides is organization for young professional and community-minded advocates who want to help support the St. Johns River through membership and participation in a range of social activities.



- Watergoats are a 40- to 105-foot-long threaded floating buoy structure that helps capture litter before it can be carried through the waterways. Community partners can collect any additional trash on their monthly clean up. After a storm, the Watergoat can help reduce flooding in addition to removing the litter from the waterways and going into the ocean or any other entrances. Since 2006, 191 Watergoats have been placed in public waterways. The debris most removed with Watergoats is polystyrene, single-use plastic bottles, and smoking devices. The pollution contributes to global warming and animal harm.

Outcomes ☐

- Watergoats have prevented 322 tons of debris from reaching the ocean.
- Watergoats can collect about 117 pounds of litter before it enters the waterways.
- Watergoats can be cleaned out in less than two hours with at least three volunteers.



Rising Tides Mission

- Rising Tides wants to make a bigger difference in the St. Johns River, lakes, and creeks. Rising Tides wants to implement one or two litter captures on St. Johns' mainstream, Trout River, McCoy's Creek and Hogan's Creek.

What Next?

- The Rising Tides have a budget to install at least one Watergoat, which can cost anywhere from \$1,700 to \$3,300. Rising Tides will most likely install the Watergoat where they do their monthly cleanups at McCoy's Creek and Hogan's Creek. With their budget, they could install two Watergoats either by the estuary, where the two rivers meet, or another spot close by. Research has found that in the long-term, an instream litter capture would be needed with the demand caused by increased pollution. Watergoats are a very good option for the first stage to collect more litter from the waterways. However, with the increasing demands of pollution, the best option is to install two Watergoats to help meet the demand until the budget can be raised for an instream litter capture.

